

72-3190

11 JUL 1972

Executive Registry
72-3892

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director-Comptroller
VIA : Deputy Director for Plans
SUBJECT : Senator Symington Request for Information
on Laos and Cambodia

1. This memorandum requests your approval of the proposal outlined in Paragraph 8 below.
2. On 15 June 1972 Senator Symington forwarded a letter (Tab A) to the Secretary of Defense requesting the following information on Laos and Cambodia:

A. Copies of all interpretations and determinations made by the Office of the General Counsel relating to the expenditure ceiling on Laos and Cambodia.

B. Copies of current guidelines and instructions relating to the application of these laws and the preparation of the reports required by them.

C. A detailed accounting of all goods and services delivered during FY 72.

D. A detailed accounting of all goods and services outstanding or undelivered on 30 June 1972.

3. Defense transferred responsibility for response to the Symington letter to the Department of State and also enclosed copies of DOD implementing instructions and related papers that could be supplied to Senator Symington (Tab B).

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4. State has informally advised FE Division that an agreement had been reached with an unspecified Senate Staff member that CIA expenditures were to be excluded from the Executive Branch report on Cambodia.

5. State has discussed the purpose of the Symington letter with its author, Mr. Richard M. Moose, Staff Assistant to the Senate Sub-Committee on U.S. Security Agreements and Commitments Abroad, which Symington chairs. Moose advised that information requested would assist them in arriving at a FY 73 ceiling for Laos. He also stated that Senator Symington intended to forward copies of the accountings to the General Accounting Office and request they conduct a complete audit to determine if the Executive Branch is complying with the law.

6. In the two previous accountings for expenditures on Laos under the Symington ceiling forwarded by State to the Congress, all expenditures from CIA, AID, and DOD were consolidated by State by object classes so that no single agency attribution could be determined. It was planned for the fourth quarter report to be similarly prepared. However, Moose has requested separate detailed reports from each agency to permit GAO audit.

7. This request obviously raises a serious question for CIA would in effect be providing detailed CIA expenditure/obligation figures to a Congressional Committee which does not have Congressional jurisdiction over CIA operations. We believe that CIA should not provide the information requested by Senator Symington in a form which would identify CIA expenditures in Laos.

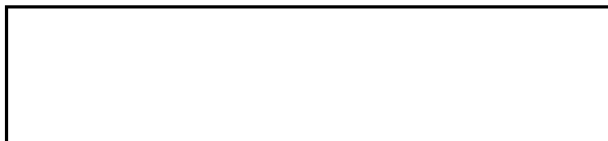
8. State is drafting a response to Senator Symington and will obtain interagency concurrence on the final draft. We propose that CIA:

A. Provide State with fourth quarter expenditure figures in the same general categories that were used in the previous reports to Congress.

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B. Request State to inform Senator Symington that CIA will identify its expenditures in Laos only to the CIA Oversight Committee in classified form and only in response to a specific request from that Committee.



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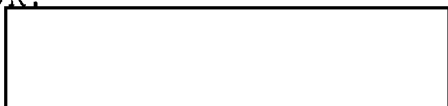
Acting Chief, Far East Division

Attachments:

Tab A - Letter

Tab B - DOD Instructions

CONCUR:



Deputy Director for Plans

The recommendation contained in Paragraph 8 is APPROVED:

Executive Director-Comptroller

12 JUL 1972

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